

Sweden and U.S. Sign Memorandum of Cooperation for Sustainable Transportation

On September 30 in Washington, DC, U.S. Deputy Secretary for Transportation Porcari and Swedish Vice Minister for Transport Zetterberg signed a Memorandum of Cooperation on Sustainable Transportation. Experts will meet in November to define specific projects under the agreement. Possibilities include intelligent transport, urban transport, freight transport and logistics, high speed rail, alternative vehicles, and traffic and vehicle safety.

ABB and GM to Cooperate on Post-Vehicle Battery Use

On September 21, General Motors and the Swedish ABB Group, which does power and automation technology, announced they had signed a Memorandum of Understanding on research and development to determine how the Volt's 16-kWh lithium-ion batteries could be used as stationary electric grid storage once they have fulfilled their usefulness in customers' vehicles. Bazmi Husain, Head of ABB's smart grids initiative, noted that future smart grids will require a wide range of energy storage solutions, such as electric car batteries in a second use.

ABB Creates Over 100 Jobs in North Carolina For New Cable Factory

ABB is investing approximately \$90 million to build a new manufacturing facility that will create more than 100 permanent jobs in Huntersville, North Carolina to produce high-voltage power cables for use in AC and DC transmission lines.

Swedish Seawater Cooling Company Invests in Honolulu Seawater Air Conditioning Project

Capital Cooling Group of Stockholm, a deep-water district cooling company, made a major equity investment in Honolulu Seawater Air Conditioning LLC's downtown project to develop a 25,000-ton seawater air conditioning district cooling system for downtown Honolulu. The system is designed to cool buildings in the downtown core using deep ocean cold water. Capital Cooling recently completed deep-water district cooling projects in Gothenburg, Sweden, and Amsterdam. Capital Cooling's is also doing the world's leading deep-water district energy project in Stockholm, and is involved in the majority of the district cooling projects in Europe.

Swedish SCA Installs Four New Wind Turbines in Wisconsin

SCA has installed four wind turbines at its Service Excellence Center in Menasha / Neenah, Wisconsin. Footings for the 30-meter towers were placed in early December 2009. The towers were tipped into place the week of June 14, 2010. The four 20-kilowatt turbines are now adding to the electricity supply for the Service Excellent Center building. Together, the four turbines will produce 100 to 125 megawatt-hours per year, enough electricity to power 10 to 12 homes a year. The turbines come from Oshkosh's Renewegy.

Sweden Inaugurates World's First Plant and Filling Station for BioDME Production

The first BioDME filling station in the world opened in Stockholm on September 7. Swedish fuels company Preem will build additional stations in Göteborg, Jönköping, and Piteå, as part of a two-year field test for DME Volvo FH trucks. Swedish company Chemrec's pilot plant in Piteå has the capacity to produce four tons of BioDME a day from the black liquor by-product from pulp production. The biofuels process is based on gasification technology from Chemrec and fuel synthesis technology from Danish company Haldor Topsøe A/S. Other partners are French oil and gas giant Total, auto parts company Delphi and Swedish research institute Energy Technology Center. Haulage companies initially participating are Green Cargo, DHL, Swedish postal agency's Posten Logistik, and Volvo Logistics via J-Trans. BioDME is mainly a fuel for heavy trucks. It allows greenhouse gas emission reductions of up to 95% compared with conventional diesel.

Swedish Consumers Opt for Biogas Vehicles

According to newly released statistics from Energigas Sweden, during the first and second quarter of 2010, 65% more biogas cars were sold in Sweden than during the same period last year. This translates to approximately 4500 vehicles. In June 2010 alone, vehicle biogas consumption increased 50%.

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